(b) if so, the details of the mission and the special package;

(c) the districts selected for the Food Security Mission and the basis on which such a selection is made;

(d) the agencies involved in the Food Security Mission; and

(e) the role of the respective State Governments and how the finances are delegated to the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) In view of stagnation in foodgrain production the Government has approved a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Food Security Mission" (NFSM) to enhance the production of wheat, rice and pulses during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The National Food Security Mission will have three components *viz.*, National Food Security Mission - Rice (NFSM-Rice), National Food Security Mission - Wheat (NFSM-Wheat) and National Food Security Mission - Pulses (NFSM-Pulses).

(c) The NFSM-Rice will be implemented in 133 identified districts of 12 States *viz.*, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The NFSM-Wheat will be implemented in 138 identified districts of 9 States *viz.*, Bihar Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The NFSM-Pulses will be implemented in 168 identified of 14 States *viz.*, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal. The districts have been identified on the basis of area of particular crop and their productivity. Those districts have been identified which have sizeable area under the crops and productivity less than that of the State average but have the potential for augmenting the productivity.

(d) and (e) The NFSM will be implemented through respective State Government. The funds for implementing the Mission's programme will be directly released to an autonomous agency to be nominated by the States. The State Level autonomous Agency will release the funds to district level autonomous agencies in accordance to their approved programme. The other agencies involved in the implementation of the National Food Security Mission's interventions include Indian Council of Agricultural Research, KVKs, NGOs and Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Olive cultivation

2621. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to start Olive cultivation in agricultural farms in Rajasthan in collaboration with Israel firms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such farming is also proposed to be started in the backward regions of India *i.e.* Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, etc., to improve their economy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government of Rajasthan is planning to undertake Olive cultivation in agricultural farms in Rajasthan in collaboration with Israeli firms. For this purpose, Government of Rajasthan has established 'Rajasthan Olive Cultivation Limited' (ROCL), a company registered under Companies Act, 1956, under public-private partnership with M/s Plastro Plasson Industries India Limited, Pune and M/s Indolive of Israel, with the involvement of Rajasthan State Agricultural Marketing Board. In order to assess the technical feasibility and economic viability of Olive cultivation in Rajasthan, test plantation of Olive crop is proposed to be taken in an area of 30 hectares each in different Government Agricultural Farms at seven locations in different agro-climatic regions of Rajasthan.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Compensation to farmers of Kharif

2622. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether Government are considering the request of Rajasthan regarding release of balance share of Rs. 26.13 crores for payment of compensation to affected farmers of Kharif, 2005 under NAIS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): All the admissible claims of Rajasthan for Kharif 2005 reason under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) have already been settled by the Implementing Agency and no Central Government share is pending in this regard.

Soil testing

†2623. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that soil testing has been done on the whole cultivable land of the country which is being used for cultivation or not being used and whether the results have been informed to the State Governments and farmers;

(b) whether the Central Government agree that soil testing is a continuous process and such tests should be conducted after certain intervals; and

(c) whether Government would consider to provide assistance to State Governments for this purpose under Centrally sponsored scheme?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.